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Recommendations

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SR-91-92-74(LA)

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Recommendation

SR-91-92-74(LA)

That the legislature do away with the existing HERF fee and replace it with two new fees whose sum would not exceed the present HERF fee. The new fees will include a) Building Use/Administrative Fee (60% of existing fee) and b) Instructional/Library Fee (40% of existing fee).

DISCUSSION AND RATIONALE:

1. The current West Virginia Code (section 18B-10-2) allocates HERF funds as follows: "Eighty percent of the total fees collected at each institution pursuant to this section shall be deposited in a special fund in the state treasury for the institution at which the fees are collected and may be used by the institution for libraries and library supplies including books, periodicals, subscriptions, and audio-visual materials, instructional equipment and materials; and for the improvement in quality and scope of student services. The remaining twenty percent of fee collection shall be deposited in a special fund and expended or allocated by the appropriate governing board to meet general operating expenses, excluding personal services, of the state university system or state college system from which the fees were collected."
2. The current practice at Marshall University allocates 40% of HERF funds received for the classroom and libraries, and 60% for university plant and administrative operations. There has been a consistent decline in the percentage of HERF funds allocated for instructional purposes.
3. This recommendation:
 - a) prevents further erosion of HERF funds designated for the classroom;
 - b) clarifies the vague wording of the law, which currently allows too much latitude in the expenditure of HERF funds;
 - c) allocates 100% of the fees collected to the individual institutions.

FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT:

APPROVED

BY SENATE: _____ DATE: _____

DISAPPROVED

BY SENATE: Robert D. Sawrey DATE: 2-27-92

SR-91-92-74(LA)

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:

READ:

[Handwritten signature]

DATE:

3/5/92

COMMENTS:
